

(19)



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(11)

EP 1 403 633 A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:
07.04.2004 Bulletin 2004/15

(51) Int Cl.7: **G01N 15/14**

(43) Date of publication A2:
31.03.2004 Bulletin 2004/14

(21) Application number: 03020445.7

(22) Date of filing: 12.09.2003

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR
HU IE IT LI LU MC NL PT RO SE SI SK TR**
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK

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(30) Priority: 27.09.2002 US 259332

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(54) **Fixed mounted sorting cuvette with user replaceable nozzle**

(57) A flow cell and flow cytometer in which a nozzle at the end of a flow channel is disposed on a removable substrate held at a registered location on a flow cell. Other elements including illumination optics, light collection optics, and the flow cell may then be positioned at fixed locations and would not require subsequent periodic adjustment. The registered location for positioning the nozzle allows removal and replacement of the nozzle key with the nozzle subsequently positioned in the identical location.

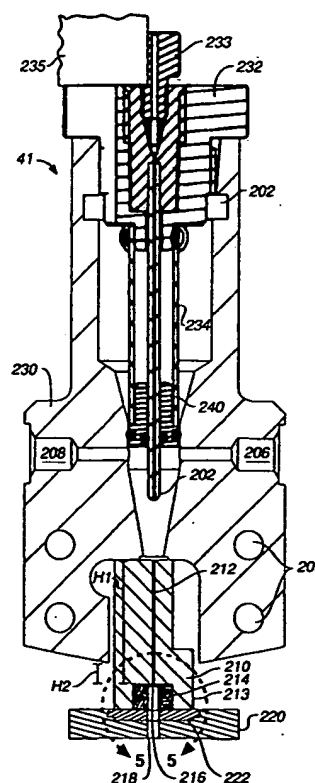


FIG. 3

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 03 02 0445

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 12 February 2004	Examiner Bravin, M
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons</p> <p>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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